



Visitor Map and Mini Guide
Pontefract



NATIONAL **COAL MINING** MUSEUM
FOR ENGLAND

Take your adventure to new depths

FREE admission and parking for everyone

Open daily 10am - 5pm
Caphouse Colliery, Wakefield, WF4 4RH
T: 01924 848806 | E: info@ncm.org.uk
www.ncm.org.uk

Company Registration Number: 1702426
Charity Registration Number: 517325

Anglers Country Park and Room on the Broom Trail
Haw Park Lane, Winterset, Wakefield WF4 2EB
T: 01924 303980
W: www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/anglers

Take the family on a magical adventure to Anglers Country Park. Explore the beautiful lakeside path; keep your eyes peeled for a variety of wildlife and look out for some interesting characters along the way. Visit the Waterton Countryside Discovery Centre for playpark, activities, bike hire and **FREE** mobility scooter hire.

Castleford Library and Museum
Carlton Street, Castleford WF10 1BB
T: 01977 722084
W: www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/museums

Get hands on with history through fun learning activities at Castleford Museum. Step into the armour of a Roman soldier and draw your sword against the enemy, discover the town's historic link with mining and its proud Rugby heritage. Pop downstairs to the library and learn about the early life of sculptor Henry Moore.

Diggerland Yorkshire
Willowbridge Lane, Whitwood, Castleford WF10 5NW
T: 0871 227 7007
W: www.diggerland.com

Ride, drive and operate full size construction machinery in this unique adventure park. Test your skills on the dumper trucks, dig a giant hole with the dirt diggers and take in the fantastic views from 50ft in the air on the Sky Shuttle. There's all this and more at Diggerland Yorkshire!

Hemsworth Water Park
Hoyle Mill Road, Kinsley WF9 5JB
T: 01977 617617
W: www.experiencewakefield.co.uk

Pack your bucket and spade and head over to Hemsworth Water Park. The park features two lakes surrounded by sandy beaches. Splash around on the pedalos, try your hand at a spot of fishing or just relax and take in the views. Little visitors will have plenty of fun at Playworld outdoor adventure playground.

Welcome to Pontefract

Welcome to the historic market town of Pontefract, once the most important Royalist stronghold in the North of England and home to everyone's favourite sweet treat, Liquorice.

There's history around every corner, with quirky street names such as Shoe Market and Salter Row, providing clues to the types of goods that were manufactured and sold here.

Pontefract is a great place to visit throughout the year, with interesting attractions, fun family events and an abundance of architectural gems waiting to be discovered.



Queen's Mill
Aire Street, Castleford WF10 1JL
T: 01977 556741
W: www.castlefordheritagetrust.org.uk

Sitting on the banks of the River Aire, Queen's Mill, formerly known as Allinsons, was thought to have been the largest stone grinding mill in the world. Pop into the Tearoom and Visitor Information Point for some homemade refreshments and to find out about special heritage open days, exhibitions and activities.

RSPB Fairburn Ings
Newton Lane, Ledston, Castleford WF10 2BH
T: 01977 628191
W: www.rspb.org.uk/fairburnings

Bug hunting, pond dipping and den building are just a few of the fun activities on offer at RSPB Fairburn Ings. Take a stroll along the riverbank, enjoy the variety of birdsong and see if you can spot the elusive Kingfisher. Pop into the Visitor Centre to hire binoculars or a pond dipping kit and to pick up a tasty snack.

Sandal Castle
Manygates Lane, Sandal, Wakefield WF2 7DS
T: 0345 8 506 506
W: www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/heritage

Explore the historic ruins of the castle famous for the Battle of Wakefield, where Richard Duke of York was killed in an attempt to take the English throne. Enjoy panoramic views of Wakefield and the beautiful Yorkshire countryside beyond.

Theatre Royal Wakefield
Drury Lane, Wakefield WF1 2TE
T: 01924 211311
W: www.theatreroyalwakefield.co.uk

Enjoy the magic of the theatre in this beautiful Grade II* listed building designed by Victorian architect Frank Matcham. As the curtain rises sit back and relax as you're transported into a colourful world of music, dance, drama and comedy.

The Hepworth Wakefield
Gallery Walk, Wakefield WF1 5AW
T: 01924 247360
W: www.hepworthwakefield.org

Only a short walk from Wakefield city centre, visit the unique gallery on the river to discover a world of art, architecture and imagination. Explore the fascinating and thought provoking exhibitions and join in an exciting programme of special events, workshops, talks, tours and family activities.

The Rosse Observatory
Carleton Road, Carleton, Pontefract WF8 3RJ
W: www.wyas.org.uk

Have you ever looked up into the night's skies and wanted to know what you are looking at? Do you know the difference between a meteor and a meteorite? West Yorkshire Astronomical Society host regular open events, offering expert advice to visitors interested in starting out in astronomy. Visit the website for details.

Wakefield Cathedral
Northgate, Wakefield WF1 1HG
T: 01924 373923
W: www.wakefieldcathedral.org.uk

The magnificent building in the centre of Wakefield boasts the tallest spire in Yorkshire standing at 247ft. Join a weekly guided tour or explore on your own while soaking up the peaceful atmosphere. See website for details on special exhibitions and events. Visit Wakefield Visitor Information Point next door for information on what's on, where to stay and what to do in Wakefield.

Wakefield Library & Museum
Wakefield One, Burton Street, Wakefield WF1 2DD
T: 01924 302104
W: www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/museums

A world of discovery lies in wait at Wakefield Museum. Uncover fascinating finds from around the world and learn about the city's heritage through fun interactive exhibitions and an exciting programme of events and activities. Pop next door to the local studies library to delve further into the district's history.

Xscape Yorkshire
Colorado Way, Glasshoughton, Castleford WF10 4TA
T: 01977 664794
W: www.xscape.co.uk/yorkshire

If you're looking for action and entertainment, you will find it all at Xscape Yorkshire. From skiing, sledging and snowboarding on real snow, to climbing, bowling and trampolining, there is something to occupy the whole family. In need of a rest? Perhaps enjoy a meal at a choice of restaurants or catch a film at the cinema.

Yorkshire Sculpture Park
West Bretton, Wakefield WF4 4LG
T: 01924 832631
W: www.yssp.co.uk

Enter a world of inspiration at YSP. Discover the works of internationally renowned artists nestled amid 500 acres of beautiful Yorkshire countryside. Visit an ever changing programme of exhibitions and events including artist talks, landscape tours, creative workshops, family activities and more.

Kinsley Greyhound Stadium
Wakefield Road, Kinsley, Pontefract WF9 5EH
T: 01977 610946
W: www.kinsleydogs.co.uk

Fancy a night out with a difference? Visit Kinsley Greyhound Stadium and experience the thrill of the race with friends and family. Enjoy a delicious meal from a selection of menus and round off the evening by taking a turn on the dance floor to the tunes of the resident DJ.

National Coal Mining Museum for England
Caphouse Colliery, New Road, Overton WF4 4RH
T: 01924 848806
W: www.ncm.org.uk

Grab your hard hat and prepare for a unique adventure 140 metres underground. Travel into the dark depths and discover the history of mining through the ages. Above ground, explore the exhibitions; take a walk along the nature trail, visit the retired ponies and make a pit stop in the café for a bite to eat.

National Trust Nostell
Doncaster Road, Nostell, Wakefield WF4 1QE
T: 01924 863892
W: www.nationaltrust.org.uk/nostell

Discover the stories of this magnificent 18th century mansion house, of its people and its treasures. After touring the house, step into the beautifully manicured gardens, explore the parkland and visit the tearooms for something delicious. Children will love the woodland play park and year-round family activities.

Newmillerdam
Barnsley Road, Newmillerdam, Wakefield WF2 6QP
T: 01924 303980
W: www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/newmillerdam

Explore 237 acres of beautiful woodland and lakeside paths, ideal for short walks or long rambles. Take a stroll around the lake and enjoy the views of the changing seasons, or explore the bridleways and cycle routes in the surrounding woodland. Visit the historic boathouse on special open days through the year.

Pugneys Watersports Centre and Country Park
Asdale Road, Off Denby Dale Road, Wakefield WF2 7EQ
T: 01924 302360
W: www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/pugneys

Get active out on the water, try your hand at sailing, kayaking and windsurfing or perhaps ride a pedalo. Stroll or cycle around the lake and take in the views of historic Sandal Castle nearby, pop into the Visitor Centre cafe for some well-earned refreshment and don't forget to take your little visitors along to the Pirate adventure playground.

Experience Wakefield

Find the latest information, on what's on, where to stay and what not to miss by visiting our tourism website:
www.experiencewakefield.co.uk

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Things to See and Do

Please note that this map is an artist's impression and is not drawn to scale. To see an online street by street map visit www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/maps

1 Pontefract Museum

5 Salter Row, Pontefract, WF8 1BA
T: 01977 722740
W: www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/museums

Have fun learning about the heritage of Pontefract and the stories of people who lived, worked and played there. Get crafty and creative in the brand new activity space, explore the fascinating exhibitions and join in an exciting programme of learning events and activities taking place throughout the year.

2 Pontefract Library

Shoe Market, Pontefract WF8 1BD
T: 01977 727692
W: www.wakefield.gov.uk/libraries

For information on local events and attractions pop into Pontefract Library. Home to a large local history collection, you can learn about the town's extraordinary past. If you'd like to dig a little deeper, pick up a Pontefract Civic Society Blue Plaque Guide and plot your own historic trail around the town.

3 St Giles Parish Church

Market Place, Pontefract WF8 1AT
T: 01977 790448
W: www.stgilespontefract.org.uk

The unique octagonal tower of St Giles Parish Church stands proudly over the skyline of Pontefract. A hive of activity, a central hub for local events and a place of worship, St Giles provides a tranquil oasis amid the hustle and bustle of the busy market town.

4 The Buttercross

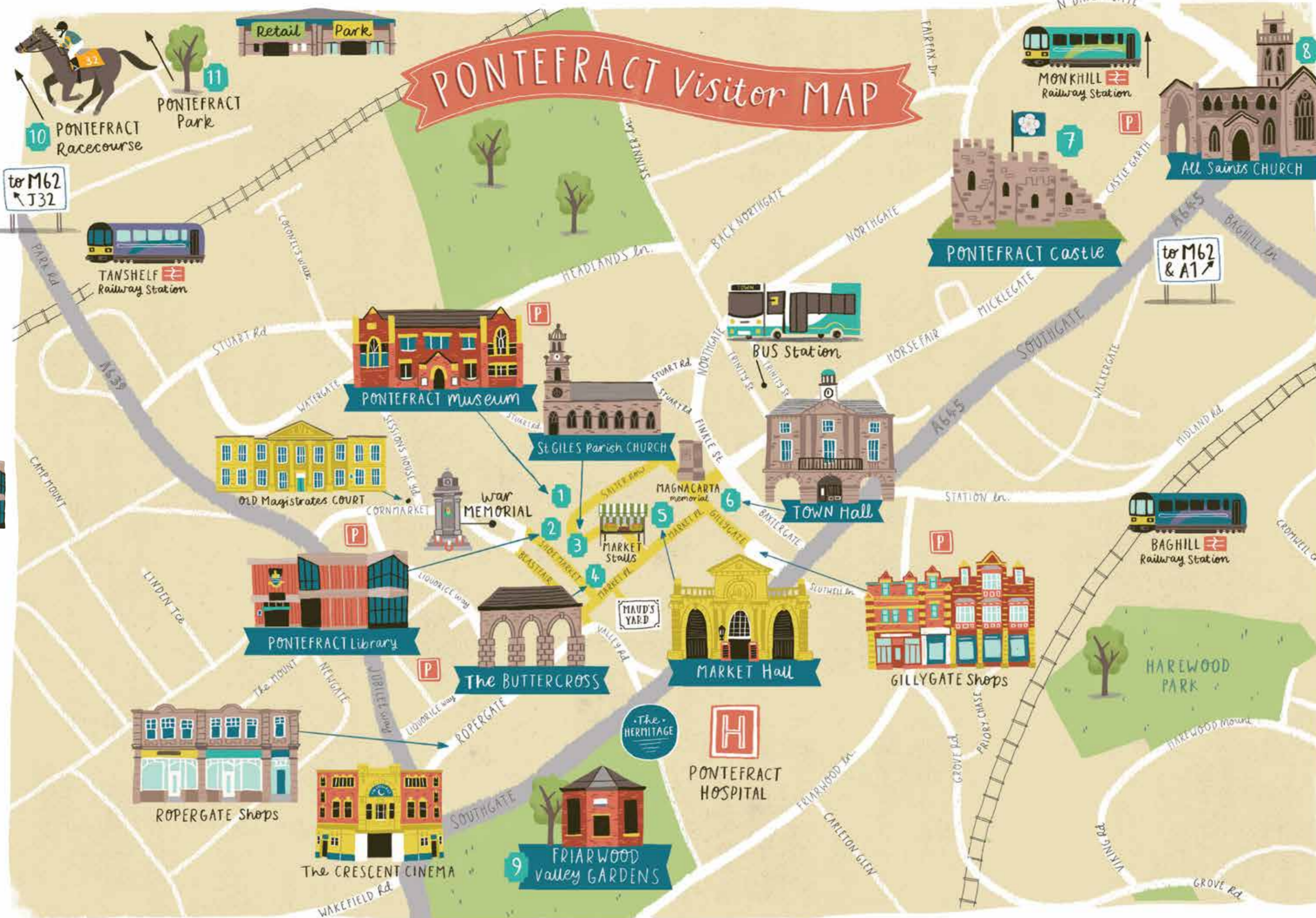
Market Place, Pontefract WF8 1AT

The historic landmark in the heart of the town centre has been a prominent feature of the Market Place since 1734. Built on the site of St Oswald's Cross, the structure provided shelter for local tradespeople selling dairy produce. Still a part of the town's trading heritage, you'll find an abundance of stalls surrounding the Buttercross on regular market days.

5 Market Hall

Market Place, Pontefract WF8 1AU
T: 01977 722725
W: www.wakefield.gov.uk/markets

Opened in 1860, the impressive market hall is open six days a week. Browse the colourful stalls and meet friendly traders, selling fresh local produce and a wide range of goods from hand cut flowers, jewellery, and fashion to homeware, crafts and gifts. The bustling outdoor market opens Wednesday and Saturday with a local farmers' market on Friday each week.



6 Town Hall

Bridge Street, Pontefract WF8 1PG
T: 01924 305830
W: www.wakefield.gov.uk

Since it was built in the late 18th Century, Pontefract Town Hall has had a variety of interesting uses, from a Magistrates Court with Police Cells to a Fire Station. The beautiful building stands on the corner of Bridge Street and today is home to Pontefract Register Office. The Town Hall also provides a stunning venue for special events, concerts and private functions.

7 Pontefract Castle

Castle Garth, Pontefract WF8 1QH
T: 01977 723440 (Car Park WF8 2JF)
W: www.pontefractcastle.co.uk

Once one of the most important fortresses in the North of England, Pontefract Castle has some fascinating stories to tell. Imagine the tales of Kings, Queens, battles and sieges, as you wander the grounds and descend into the dark dungeon. Call into the new visitor centre, shop and café opening early 2017. For castle news and events visit the website.

8 All Saints Church

South Baileygate, Pontefract WF8 2JL
T: 01977 600230
W: www.allsaintspontefract.co.uk

All Saints Church dates from around the 1300s, although a church has been recorded close to the site since Anglo Saxon times. The church is well known for its remarkable double helix staircase, (two sets of stairs which wind their way around a singular stone newel). It is thought to be one of only two that exist in the British Isles, look out for a rare opportunity so see this on Heritage Open Days in September.

9 Friarwood Valley Gardens

Southgate, Pontefract WF8 1PL
W: www.experiencewakefield.gov.uk/pontefract

A lovely green space only a short walk from Pontefract town centre, located on what is thought to have been the site of the town's former monastery gardens. Alive with colour through the changing seasons, the gardens are a perfect spot for some quiet reflection and a venue for community events throughout the year.

10 Pontefract Racecourse

Pontefract Park, Pontefract WF8 4QD
T: 01977 781307
W: www.pontefract-races.co.uk

Located only a mile from the town centre, Pontefract Racecourse promises a thrilling day out for all the family. With excellent views of the course from all enclosures, a selection of dining delights and special themed events throughout the season, it really is a great way to spend a day.

11 Pontefract Park

Pontefract Park, Pontefract, WF8 4RD
W: www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/pontefractpark

Take a stroll along tree lined paths and around the beautiful lake, work your way around the 9 hole golf course or try a spot of fishing. The north part of the park is a local nature reserve; spot a variety of wildlife in its natural habitat and relax in the peaceful surroundings of the park.

Essential Information

Where to Stay

You'll find a wealth of quality accommodation to suit all tastes and budgets in Pontefract and across the Wakefield district. For a full listing visit www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/wheretostay

Car Parking

There are a number of short and long stay pay and display car parks across the town centre. For a full list of locations visit www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/travel

Getting Around

Pontefract is easily accessible by bus and train, the town has three railway stations, Monkhill, Baghill and Tanshelf and a central Bus Station only a short walk from the main shopping area. For information on how to get around the district by bus and train visit www.wymetro.com

Festivals & Events

Pontefract has a varied and exciting range of events and activities taking place throughout the year, from musical performances, poetry readings, ghost walks and sporting events, to Yorkshire Day celebrations, specialist markets and the magnificent Pontefract Liquorice Festival each July. Visit www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/whatson to make sure you don't miss anything!

Shopping

There's nothing quite like visiting a new place and picking up something unique to take home with you. Pontefract has a thriving market and a wonderful range of independent shops selling, boutique fashion, stylish homeware, jewellery, art and antiques. You can also pick up a bargain in some of the discount stores around the town; there really is something to suit all budgets.

Food & Drink

After all of that shopping and historic discovery, you might be in need of some refreshment. Explore the winding streets, yards and alleys of Pontefract to find a culinary hidden gem. Experience a deliciously diverse range of food and drink and a warm Yorkshire welcome in the town's quirky cafés, pubs and restaurants. For award winning farm fresh food, head to Farmer Copleys just 2 miles from the town centre.

Pontefract Townscape Heritage Initiative

Walking around you might notice that some of the town's lovely old buildings have had a bit of a facelift. The Pontefract Townscape Heritage Initiative has been helping the town to repair and restore some of its most cherished buildings, bringing the historic Market Place back to its former glory. To find out more about the scheme visit: www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/THI

More Info

For inspiring ideas of things to see and do in the Wakefield district

Visit our website

www.experiencewakefield.co.uk

Follow us on Twitter @expwakefield or Facebook ExperienceWakefield

Sign up to our tourism eNewsletter

www.experiencewakefield.co.uk/enews

A bit about the artist

The wonderful artwork on this map is produced by local artist Liz Kay. Liz has a vast portfolio of illustration and design work created for organisations around the world and very kindly agreed to help us to produce a Visitor Map for Pontefract. To see more of Liz's work visit www.lizkay.co.uk

